



Weekly Prayer Focus: 9th April 2023

Stoke Green Baptist Church

This week's Prayer Focus sees our eyes turn to the south-west of Ipswich and the home of Stoke Green Baptist Church.

The congregation is located near the heart of two large housing estates, and forms a community of 66 members. They recently entered into a pastoral vacancy and expect to shortly begin the process of recruiting a new minister.

The church is blessed to have extensive premises and is therefore able to host a variety of activities, including Messy Church, youth and children's clubs, mother and toddler group, a club for older folk and a 'community warm space'.

They enjoy close relationships with local primary schools which involves taking Open The Book assemblies in two and RE lessons in one.

Despite the healthy array of activities being provided, the church has been heavily reliant on members aged 60+, and has only a handful of young families, and a fluctuating group of children and young people. A part time Youth and Children's Worker was employed from 2019-21, but this was disrupted by the pandemic and to make a new appointment would now be financially difficult.

Please pray for the following:

- Wisdom in shaping a church profile reflecting where we feel God wants us to be and the direction we should take.
- Resourcing our children and young peoples' work, which is a challenge.
- Our Moderator, Rev Jon Bates and church leaders during the pastoral vacancy.
- Wisdom to know where to deploy our limited resources to best effect for the Kingdom